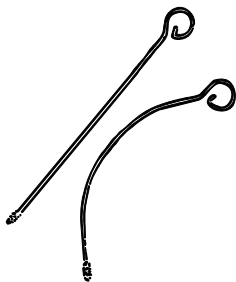


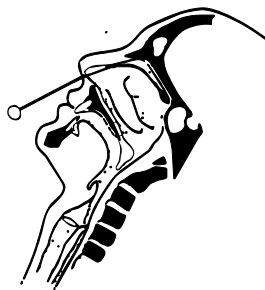
INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING NASOPHARYNGEAL SPECIMENS

For Influenza, Para-Influenza, RSV and Adenovirus

NASOPHARYNGEAL SWAB CULTURE: SEND NASOPHARYNGEAL CULTURE WHEN ACUTE ILLNESS WITHIN PREVIOUS **48 HOURS** WITH SYMPTOMS OF FEVER ($\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ [37.8°C]), AND A COUGH OR SORE THROAT. FEVER DOES NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT AT THE TIME OF SPECIMEN COLLECTION.

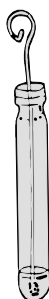


(1) Bend swab into gentle curve.



(2) Insert swab into anterior nares and gently swab posterior nasopharynx.

VTM Solution



(3) Moisten swabbed specimen in Viral Transport Medium (VTM). (May be held in VTM up to 1 hour.)

PLEASE CALL MDPH Immunization Program AT (617) 983-6800 TO ARRANGE TRANSPORT OF INOCULATED VTM AND COMPLETED PAPERWORK TO THE STATE LABORATORY

**VIRAL ISOLATION LABORATORY
ROOM 712
STATE LABORATORY INSTITUTE
305 SOUTH STREET
JAMAICA PLAIN, MA 02130**

*Please attempt to collect and mail back specimens on **Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday**. If a specimen is to be shipped on **Thursday or Friday**, contact an Immunization Epidemiologist at 617-983-6800 to arrange for a courier.*

To test for Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV): Use a same day courier to optimize the isolation of RSV. Cold packs may maintain the viability of the organism and are recommended.

Note: RSV testing can only be done on Nasopharyngeal (NP) swabs. Influenza, Para-Influenza and Adenovirus can be isolated from either throat and NP swabs. NP swabs are **recommended** over throat swabs for multiple virus isolation and testing.

NOTE: On the Specimen Submission form box #5 **Test requested:** write: Respiratory panel